

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sales system comprising user mobile terminals, each owned by a train passenger, for storing an in-train merchandise purchase program; salesperson terminals each borne by a salesperson in the train; a merchandise management terminal connected to said user mobile terminals and said salesperson terminals via a network in the train; and a merchandise management server to which said merchandise management terminal is connected via the Internet; wherein:

said merchandise management terminal has:

means , upon receiving ordering information entered from said user mobile terminal in accordance with said in-train merchandise purchase program, for discerning the payment method and, for transferring said ordering information to said salesperson terminal if the payment method is cash payment; and

~~means—~~, means for requesting said merchandise management server to give authentication if the payment method is any ~~other~~ method other than cash payment and, for transferring said ordering information to said salesperson terminal if authentication is given; and

said merchandise management server ~~has~~ includes means for settling account with the passenger requiring any non-cash payment method when notified by said salesperson terminal of the completion of a sale via said merchandise management terminal; and

wherein said merchandise management server downloads to said user mobile terminals said in-train merchandise purchase program.

2. (Currently Amended) The sales system, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said merchandise management server has authenticating means , upon receiving a request for authentication from said merchandise management terminal, for checking whether a name and a password ~~the name and the password~~ contained in said ordering information are

identical with the respective ones registered in advance as personal information; for discerning whether account settlement information matching the payment method contained in said ordering information is contained in the ~~pertinent~~ personal information and, for giving authentication if both the name and the password are identical and the account settlement information is registered.

3. (Original) A sales system comprising user mobile terminals, each owned by a train passenger; salesperson terminals each borne by a salesperson in the train; a merchandise management terminal connected to said user mobile terminals and said salesperson terminals via a network in the train; and a merchandise management server to which said merchandise management terminal is connected via the Internet; wherein:

said user mobile terminal has:

means for accessing said merchandise management server in advance, for registering personal information, for downloading an in-train merchandise purchase program and for storing it;

means for transmitting and receiving data to and from said merchandise management terminal by way of short-range wireless communication;

means , at the time of actuating said in-train merchandise purchase program, for acquiring inventory volume information on each merchandise item from said merchandise management terminal and for displaying it on an ordering menu screen; and

means for causing ordering information on merchandise to be entered by using said in-train merchandise purchase program and for transmitting the entered ordering information;

said salesperson terminal has:

means for receiving the ordering information from said merchandise management terminal and for displaying it; and

means for transmitting to said merchandise management terminal ordering information pertaining to already completed delivery after the delivery of merchandise to the passenger and sale completion information entered from the salesperson;

said merchandise management terminal has:

means for managing the inventory volume of each merchandise item;

means for transmitting inventory volume information on each merchandise item at a request from said user mobile terminal;

means for receiving ordering information from said user mobile terminal and, for requesting authentication by transmitting said ordering information to said merchandise management server if the payment method contained in said ordering information is not cash payment;

means, when notified by said merchandise management server of authentication or in the case of cash payment, for transmitting said ordering information to said salesperson terminal; and

means for receiving said ordering information and said sale completion information from said salesperson terminal, for updating the inventory volume and, at the same time, for transmitting said ordering information and said sale completion information to said merchandise management server; and

said merchandise management server has:

means for storing personal information registered in advance from said user mobile terminal;

means , when having received a request for authentication from said merchandise management terminal, for checking said ordering information with said registered personal information, and for notifying the result of checkup for authentication; and

means , when having received said sale completion information and said ordering information from said merchandise management terminal, for discerning whether the

payment method is cash payment and, for settling the pertinent account when it is any other method than cash payment.

4. (Currently Amended) The sales system, as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said personal information includes a name, password ~~the name, password~~, and account settlement information on any ~~other~~ payment method other than cash payment, and

said ordering information includes the name, password, seat number, merchandise item, volume purchased, sum payable and payment method.

5. (Original) The sales system, as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said merchandise management server further has means , when having received a request for authentication from said merchandise management terminal, for checking whether the name and the password contained in said ordering information are identical with the respective ones registered in advance as personal information; for discerning whether account settlement information matching the payment method contained in said ordering information is contained in the pertinent personal information and, for giving authentication if both the name and the password are identical and the account settlement information is registered.

6. (Original) The sales system, as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said short-range wireless communication is infrared ray communication,

said user mobile terminal has means for performing infrared ray communication with a seat wireless unit provided on each seat in the train, and

said seat wireless unit has means for establishing connection to said merchandise management terminal via said network in the train.

7. (Original) The sales system, as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said short-range wireless communication is Bluetooth communication,

said user mobile terminal has means for performing Bluetooth communication with Bluetooth wireless units provided in the train, and

said Bluetooth wireless units have means for establishing connection to said merchandise management terminal via said network in the train.

8. (Original) The sales system, as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the in-train merchandise purchase program stored in said user mobile terminal includes a plurality of kinds of programs differing in available menus,

said merchandise management terminal contains a table of menus in which seat numbers are matched with available menus, and

said merchandise management terminal has means , when said ordering information has been received from said user mobile terminal, for judging by referencing said table of menus whether the contents of the menu according to which an order has been received from the seat number contained in said ordering information are approved.

9. (Original) The sales system, as claimed in Claim 8, wherein said plurality of kinds of programs are for first-class cars and for second-class cars.

10. (Original) The sales system, as claimed in Claim 8, wherein said plurality of kinds of programs are for reserved seats and for non-reserved seats.

11. (Original) The sales system, as claimed in Claim 8, wherein said available menus include a menu for buying merchandise and a menu for using rental service.

12. (Currently Amended) A merchandise management terminal in a sales system comprising user mobile terminals, each owned by a train passenger and each storing an in-train merchandise purchase program; salesperson terminals each borne by a salesperson in the train; a merchandise management terminal connected to said user mobile terminals and said salesperson terminals via a network in the train; and a merchandise management server to which said merchandise management terminal is connected via the Internet; wherein:

said merchandise management terminal ~~has~~ comprises:

means for managing the inventory volume of each merchandise item;

means for transmitting inventory volume information on each merchandise item at a request from said user mobile terminal;

means for receiving ordering information from said user mobile terminal and, for requesting authentication by transmitting said ordering information to said merchandise management server if the payment method contained in said ordering information is not cash payment;

means for transmitting said ordering information to said salesperson terminal when notified by said merchandise management server of authentication or in the case of cash payment; and

means for receiving said ordering information and said sale completion information from said salesperson terminal, for updating the inventory volume and, for transmitting said ordering information and said sale completion information to said merchandise management server at the same time; and

wherein said merchandise management server downloads to said user mobile terminals said in-train merchandise purchase program.

13. (Currently Amended) A sales method for use in a sales system comprising user mobile terminals, each owned by a train passenger; salesperson terminals each borne by a salesperson in the train; a merchandise management terminal connected to said user mobile terminals and said salesperson terminals via a network in the train; and a merchandise management server to which said merchandise management terminal is connected via the Internet; comprising:

registering in advance with said merchandise management server personal information including the name, password and account settlement information by said user mobile terminal;

downloading an in-train merchandise purchase program from said merchandise management server and storing it in advance in said user mobile terminal;

transmitting actuation information from said user mobile terminal to said merchandise management terminal when the train passenger has actuated said in-train merchandise purchase program on said user mobile terminal;

transmitting the current inventory volume information from said merchandise management terminal to said user mobile terminal when said merchandise management terminal managing the inventory volume of each merchandise item receives said actuation information;

displaying an ordering menu screen containing the inventory volume of each merchandise item by said user mobile terminal;

transmitting ordering information from said user mobile terminal to said merchandise management terminal when the passenger enters ordering information on the screen;

discerning by said merchandise management terminal whether the payment method contained in said ordering information is cash payment;

transmitting said ordering information from said merchandise management terminal to said merchandise management server and requests authentication when the payment method is any ~~other~~ method other than cash payment;

checking by said merchandise management server whether account settlement information matching the name, the password and the payment method contained in said ordering information is registered and transmitting the result of checkup for authentication from said merchandise management server to said merchandise management terminal;

transmitting said ordering information from said merchandise management terminal to said salesperson terminal when notified of authentication or in the case of cash payment;

transmitting from said salesperson terminal to said merchandise management terminal the entered sale completion information and the ordering information pertaining to the already completed delivery when the salesperson enters sale completion information indicating the completion of delivery of merchandise to the passenger of the seat number contained in said ordering information;

transmitting said sale completion information and said ordering information from said merchandise management terminal to said merchandise management server when said merchandise management terminal receives said sale completion information and said ordering information pertaining to the already completed delivery, updates the inventory volume and at the same time;

discerning by said merchandise management server whether the payment method contained in said ordering information is cash payment; and

settling the pertinent account according to the account settlement information registered correspondingly to the name and the password registered in said ordering information by said merchandise management server when the payment method is any ~~other~~ method other than cash payment.

14. (Currently Amended) A program storage medium storing a computer program applicable, in a sales system comprising user mobile terminals, each owned by a train passenger and each storing an in-train merchandise purchase program, salesperson terminals each borne by a salesperson in the train, a merchandise management terminal connected to said user mobile terminals and said salesperson terminals via a network in the train, and a merchandise management server to which said merchandise management terminal is connected via the Internet, to said merchandise management terminal to cause a computer to achieve processing, said program when executed on a computer ~~processing-comprising the steps of:~~

managing the inventory volume of each merchandise item;

transmitting the inventory volume of each merchandise item at a request from said user mobile terminal;

receiving ordering information from said user mobile terminal and, if the payment method contained in said ordering information is not cash payment, requests authentication by transmitting said ordering information to said merchandise management server;

transmitting, when notified of authentication by said merchandise management server or in the case of cash payment, said ordering information to said salesperson terminal; and

updating, upon receiving said ordering information and sale completion information, the inventory volume and transmitting at the same time said ordering information and said sale completion information to said merchandise management server as account settling information; and

downloading by said merchandise management server to said user mobile terminals said in-train merchandise purchase program.